

SUMMARY

Flu A is finally here

The predominant FluA strain for GHS is the H1N1 2009 strain (NOTE this is NOT a new pandemic flu strain; it is the same one the U.S. has experienced since 2009)

FluA H1N1 2009 does have some differences from seasonal flu.

Refer to CDC webpage for specifics.

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>

GML launches mass spectrometry for microbial identification

10X Essentials is a publication of Geisinger Medical Laboratories

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10X Essentials: Flu A is finally here

The predominant circulating virus in GML is RSV
The second most common virus is coronavirus.
There are also a few influenza A isolates circulating in GML, with Flu A H1N1 2009 predominating. NOTE: This is NOT a new flu virus, it is the same one that has been in the US since 2009. See graph on page 2.

Remember ...

- **Collect a nasopharyngeal swab, NOT a nasal swab.**
- Place swab in UTM transport media.
- Store and transport UTM under refrigerated conditions

NEW: Mass Spectrometry method for bacterial and yeast identification

- **Meet GML's very own "Major Mass Spec" (ala NCIS fame)**
- **By now, you should notice that key microbial identifications are happening faster**
- We've integrated MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry into microbial identification.
 - Yeast are identified up to 3 days faster
 - Many bacteria are identified up to 24 hours faster
- MALDI-TOF aerosolizes bacterial proteins into fragments of various mass and charge, which fly through a vacuum tube and create patterns that are used to rapidly and accurately identify microbial species (microbes in – answers out!).
- Mass spectrometry is similar in accuracy to genetic sequencing, but it's much faster and much less costly.
- You may find microbial names or patterns of infections that you have not seen before; this is because historical methods had limitations in species identification.
- Antimicrobial susceptibility tests take the same amount of time as before, but studies show that in many cases, species identification alone is useful for antimicrobial escalation or de-escalation. Please continue to identify the optimal antimicrobial as quickly as possible – the practice saves lives and resources.



Uptick in influenza A,
(light blue)
H1N1 2009 strain predominates

All Positive Result Breakdown - by Week Number

